## BEFORE THE STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR THE HEALING ARTS STATE OF MISSOURI

MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR THE HEALING ARTS,	)
Petitioner,	)
V.	) Case Number: 2020-003605
MALISA NUZZI, PA	)
Respondent.	)

## **ORDER**

COMES NOW the Missouri State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts, and in the matter of the licensure application of Malisa Nuzzi, PA, hereby issues the following Order:

- The Missouri State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts ("Board") is an agency of the State of Missouri; created and established pursuant to section 334.120, RSMo<sup>1</sup> for the purpose of executing and enforcing the provisions of Chapters 334, RSMo.
- Under Chapter 334, RSMo, the Board regulates the professional standards of physician assistants.
   Among its duties, the Board evaluates the qualifications of licensure applicants and issues licenses in accordance with the statutes and regulations.
- 3. On or about October 7, 2020, Malisa Nuzzi ("Respondent") submitted a physician assistant licensure application to the Board.
- 4. During its January 14, 2021 meeting, the Board met with Respondent to discuss her application. The Board has the following concerns with Respondent's application:
  - a) On or about July 27, 2020, the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct ("New York Board") entered a consent order ("New York Order") adopting a consent agreement, wherein Respondent in effect surrendered her license to practice as a physician assistant in the state of New York.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All statutory references are to the Revised Statutes of Missouri Cumulative Supplement (2018), unless otherwise stated.

- b) The New York Order was based on the New York Board's charges that between 2009 and 2015 Respondent inappropriately prescribed to herself controlled and non-controlled substances without proper documentation.
- 5. The New York Order is a final disciplinary order by another state licensing authority.
- 6. The above is cause to deny Respondent's licensure application, or in alternative, to issue Respondent a license subject to discipline.

## STATUTORY BASIS

- 7. Cause exists to issue the license subject to discipline, pursuant to sections 334.100.1 and 334.100.2(8), RSMo and rule 20 CSR 2150-7.140(2)(H), which state:
  - 334.100. 1. The board may refuse to issue or renew any certificate of registration or authority, permit or license required pursuant to this chapter for one or any combination of causes stated in subsection 2 of this section.... As an alternative to a refusal to issue or renew any certificate, registration or authority, the board may, at its discretion, issue a license which is subject to probation, restriction or limitation to an applicant for licensure for any one or any combination of causes stated in subsection 2 of this section.... If the board issues a probationary, limited or restricted license to an applicant for licensure, either party may file a written petition with the administrative hearing commission within thirty days of the effective date of the probationary, limited or restricted license seeking review of the board's determination. If no written request for a hearing is received by the administrative hearing commission within the thirty-day period, the right to seek review of the board's decision shall be considered as waived.
  - 334.100. 2. The board may cause a complaint to be filed with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621 against any holder of any certificate of registration or authority, permit or license required by this chapter or any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered the person's certificate of registration or authority, permit or license for any one or any combination of the following causes:

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(8) Revocation, suspension, restriction, modification, limitation, reprimand, warning, censure, probation or other final disciplinary action against the holder of or applicant for a license or other right to practice any profession regulated by this chapter by another state, territory, federal agency or country, whether or not voluntarily agreed to by the licensee or applicant, including, but not limited to, the denial of licensure, surrender of the license, allowing the license to expire or lapse, or discontinuing or limiting the practice of medicine while subject to an investigation or while actually under investigation by any licensing authority, medical facility, branch of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, insurance company, court, agency of the state or federal government, or employer;

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20 CSR 2150-7.140(2) The board may cause a complaint to be filed with the Administrative Hearing Commission as provided by Chapter 621, RSMo, against any holder of any certificate of registration or authority, permit or license required by this chapter or any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered a certificate of registration or authority, permit or license for any one (1) or any combination of the following causes:

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- (H) Revocation, suspension, restriction, modification, limitation, reprimand, warning, censure, probation or other final disciplinary action against the holder of or applicant for licensure or other right to practice any profession regulated by this chapter by another state, territory, federal agency or country, whether or not voluntarily agreed to by the physician assistant or applicant, including, but not limited to, the denial of licensure or registration, surrender of the license or registration, allowing physician assistant license or registration to expire or lapse, or discontinuing or limiting the practice of the physician assistant while subject to an investigation or while actually under investigation by any licensing authority, medical facility, branch of the armed forces of the United States of America, insurance company, court, agency of the state or federal government, or employer:
- 8. Respondent's conduct, as established by the foregoing facts, falls within the intendments of sections 334.100.1 and 334.100.2(8), RSMo and rule 20 CSR 2150-7.140(2)(H).
- 9. Cause exists for the Board to take disciplinary action against Respondent's license under sections 334.100.1 and 334.100.2(8), RSMo and rule 20 CSR 2150-7.140(2)(H).

## **DECISION AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

- 10. In lieu of denial, the Board exercises its discretion under section 334.100.1, RSMo and issues Respondent a physician assistant's license, number 20210323107, with a PUBLIC REPRIMAND.
- 11. The Board orders Respondent to successfully complete a board-approved prescribing course within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effective date of this Order. The Board maintains a list of preapproved courses on its website: <a href="https://pr.mo.gov/boards/healingarts/CMECourses.pdf">https://pr.mo.gov/boards/healingarts/CMECourses.pdf</a>. If Respondent wishes to take a course, other than those pre-approved courses, Respondent shall obtain the Board's approval to attend a specific course prior to attending that course. Respondent shall forward proof of the successful completion of the course to the Board within thirty (30) days of such completion.
- 12. If Respondent is licensed in other jurisdictions, she shall forward written notice of this disciplinary action to the medical licensing authorities of those jurisdictions within thirty (30) days of the effective date of

- this Order. Respondent shall submit a copy of the written notice to the Board contemporaneously with sending it to the relevant licensing authority. If Respondent is not licensed in other jurisdictions, she shall notify the Board of that fact, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order.
- 13. Respondent shall, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order, forward written notice of this disciplinary action to all employers, hospitals, nursing homes, out-patient centers, clinics, and any other facility where Respondent practices or has privileges. Respondent shall, contemporaneously with the giving of such notice, submit a copy of the notice to the Board for verification by the Board or its designated representative. If Respondent does not have an employer, staff privileges or practice at any facility, she shall notify the Board of that fact, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order.
- 14. Respondent shall, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order, forward written notice of this disciplinary action to any physician supervising or collaborating with Respondent. Respondent shall, contemporaneously with the giving of such notice, submit a copy of the notice to the Board for verification by the Board or its designated representative. If Respondent is not currently supervised by or collaborating with any physician, she shall refrain from practice as a physician assistant and notify the Board of that fact, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order.
- 15. For purposes of this Order and unless otherwise specified herein, all reports, documentation, evaluations, notices, or other materials Respondent is required to submit to the Board in this Order shall be forwarded to the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts, Attention: Enforcement, P.O. Box 4, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.
- 16. The Board will maintain this Order as an open record as required by Chapters 324, 334, and 610, RSMo, and this action will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank ("NPDB") and National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA).

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17. If Respondent wishes to appeal the Board's decision, she may do so by filing an appeal with the Administrative Hearing Commission, P.O. Box 1557, Jefferson City, MO 65102, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order,

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that upon the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall be issued a license with a PUBLIC REPRIMAND pursuant to the terms of discipline described above.

James Leggett, Executive Director
Missouri State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts